

# Governor Baldacci's

## Task Force on Safer Chemicals in Consumer Products and Services

Wednesday, August 16, 2006 10:00 am

### Welcome

- Dick Davies, Governor's Staff
- David Littell, Chairperson

### Introductions,

- Name, expertise, experience relative to safer chemicals in consumer products and services. Are there specific issues that you hope you will be able to work on?  
Available time commitment?

### Logistics

- Dick Davies will review what it means to be on a Gubernatorial Task Force

### Getting started

- Review Task Force duties as written in the Executive Order

The purpose of the Task Force is to identify and promote the use and development of safer alternatives to hazardous chemicals in consumer goods and services made, provided or sold in Maine so as to benefit public health, the environment and the economy for all Maine people. The specific duties of the Task Force are to:

- 1) Survey relevant knowledge and activities related to promoting safer alternatives to priority chemicals in the areas of environmental public health policy development, green chemistry research and development, and economic incentives;
- 2) Develop recommendations for a more comprehensive chemicals policy that requires safer substitutes to priority chemicals in consumer products and creates incentives to develop safer alternatives, on a state and regional basis;
- 3) Develop recommendations on expanded consumer education, retailer education and training, supply chain information and public right-to-know in order to promote markets for safer alternatives;
- 4) Develop recommendations for submission to the Maine Science and Technology Advisory Council on expanded research and development of safer alternatives to priority chemicals in consumer products, including investment in green chemistry research and development and the possibility of developing bio-based plastics from Maine-based agricultural and forest products.

For purposes of this Executive Order, the term "priority chemicals" includes substances and their breakdown products including PBTs, very persistent and very bioaccumulative (vPvB) chemicals, carcinogens, mutagens or reproductive toxins (CMRs), neurotoxins, and endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) that have been demonstrated by biomonitoring studies to be present in human tissues and fluids, that are produced in high volumes or used in ways that may result in high exposures, or that pose generally equivalent concerns as determined by the state's qualified experts or by a body considered to be authoritative by such experts. Priority chemicals include, but are not limited to, toxic substances listed by the DEP in its programs that address toxic releases, air toxics and water toxics. For purposes of this Executive Order, "consumer products" means items or materials sold or distributed for residential or commercial use, but excludes those intended exclusively for industrial use.

- Suggested information topics for future presentations (for instance someone who could provide an overview of existing public programs/efforts that are working on similar goals).
- Discuss and begin to define tasks and time line for interim report due November 30, 2006.

### Schedule next meeting/s